

CLAIMS

[1] A mobile communication apparatus comprising:

reception means;

transmission means;

surrounding environment detection means for detecting whether or not there are communication obstacles in the surroundings of a mobile unit;

communication state decision means for making decisions as to the quality of communication state of the mobile unit based on detection results of the surrounding environment detection means; and

control means for controlling transmission, via the transmission means, of information received by the reception means based on decision results of the communication state decision means.

[2] The mobile communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

when the surrounding environment detection means detects no communication obstacles in the surroundings of the mobile unit, the communication state decision means decides that the mobile unit is in a satisfactory communication state, and, at the same time, the control means uses the transmission means to transmit information received by the reception means; and

when the surrounding environment detection means detects communication obstacles in the surroundings of the mobile unit, the communication state decision means decides that the mobile unit is in an unsatisfactory communication state and, at the same time, the control means uses the transmission means to transmit the information received by the reception means only if no information identical to the information is received again within a predetermined period of time after its receipt.

[3] The mobile communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the surrounding environment detection means comprises imaging means

installed in the mobile unit.

[4] The mobile communication apparatus according to any of claims 1 through 3, wherein the reception means and transmission means are a wireless communication device.